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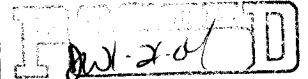
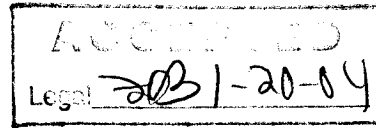


Cindy Cox
Vice President
Business Development and Governmental Relations

January 16, 2004

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Mr. Bruce Duke
Acting Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Columbia, SC



Subject: Docket No. 2001-209-C (South Carolina SGAT Filing)

Dear Mr. Duke:


In response to the extensive changes required by the August 21, 2003, FCC TRO (Triennial Review Order), BellSouth recently undertook an effort to update both the South Carolina Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions (SGAT) and the Standard Interconnection Agreement. However, the differences between these two documents has resulted in an unnecessary complexity that we believe warrants moving to a single document. Therefore, BellSouth has elected to replace the current South Carolina SGAT with the attached Standard Interconnection Agreement in order to provide a resource that is TRO-compliant, commercially relevant, and operationally efficient.

It should be noted that no CLEC has adopted the current South Carolina SGAT while many CLECs have adopted the Standard Interconnection Agreement, suggesting that this more commercially relevant document would be of value. Our wholesale customers are familiar with both the form and content of the Standard Interconnection Agreement; and thus, the replacement will provide an operationally friendly resource. Replacing the current South Carolina SGAT with the Standard Interconnection Agreement will promote process efficiencies beneficial to the customer, to the Commission, and to BellSouth.

Consequently, pursuant to Section 252(f) BellSouth submits the attached Standard Interconnection Agreement to replace the current South Carolina SGAT. The Standard Interconnection Agreement serves as the statement of terms and conditions that BellSouth will generally offer within South Carolina to comply with Sections 251 and 252(d).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,


Vice President

Attachment

